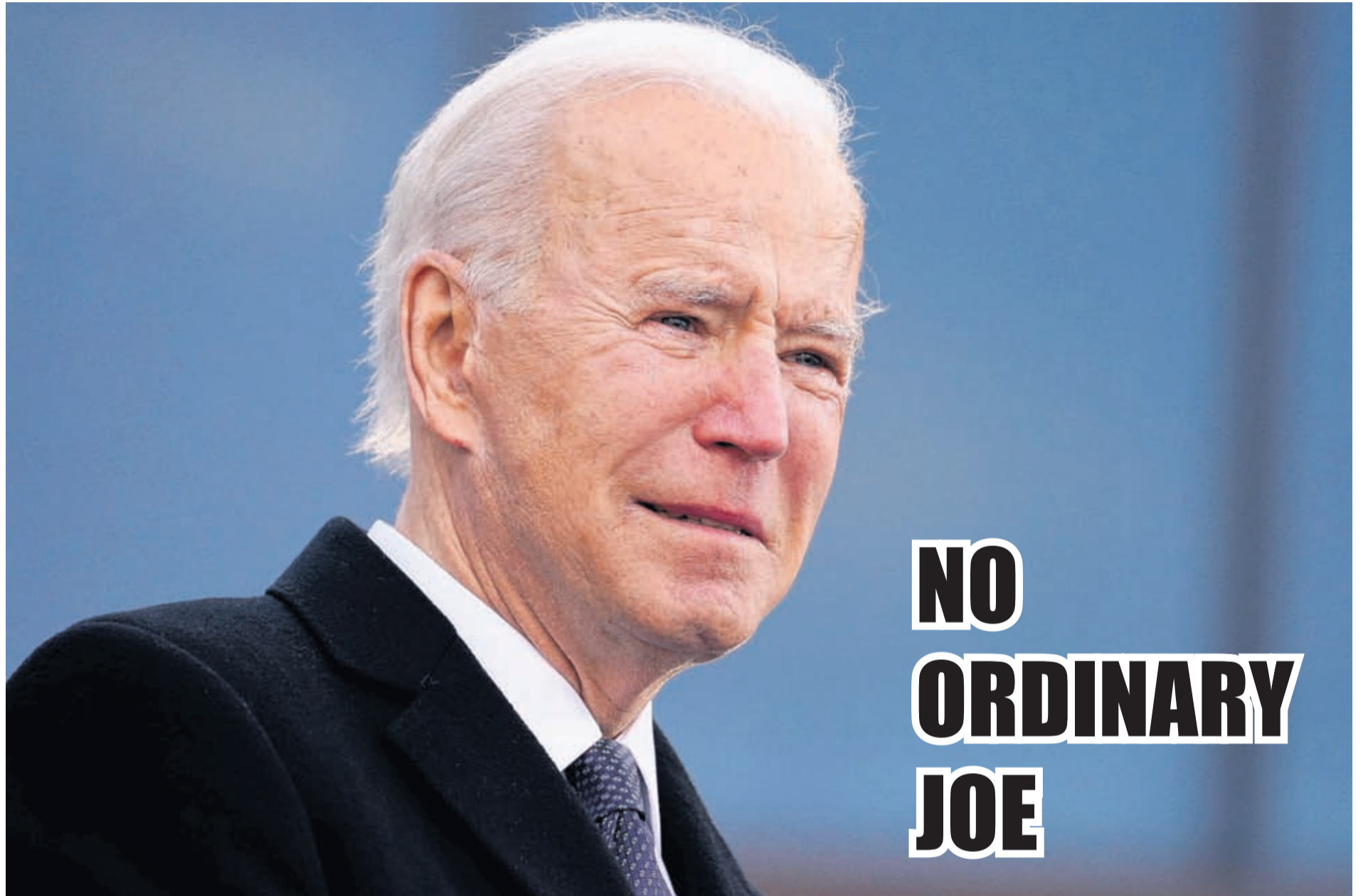




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President-elect Joe Biden tears up as he speaks at the Major Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III National Guard/Reserve Center, Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021, in New Castle, Del. Associated Press

## Biden arriving in Washington with big plans, big problems

By **BILL BARROW** and **AAM-ER MADHANI**  
Associated Press

**WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)** — President-elect Joe Biden is making his entrance in the nation's capital for Wednesday's inauguration, ready to assume power as America reels from the

coronavirus pandemic, soaring unemployment and grave concerns about more violence as he prepares to take the oath of office.

Biden, an avid fan of Amtrak, had planned to take a train into Washington on Tuesday ahead of Inaugu-

ration Day, but scratched that plan in the aftermath of the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

He'll instead fly into a military airbase just outside the capital and motorcade into fortress D.C. — a city that's been flooded by some 25,000 National

Guard troops guarding a Capitol, White House and National Mall that are wrapped in a maze of barricades and tall fencing. Shortly before Biden departed for Washington, the U.S. reached another grim milestone in the pandemic, surpassing 400,000 deaths

from the virus, according to Johns Hopkins University. "These are dark times," Biden told dozens of supporters in an emotional sendoff in Delaware on Wednesday. "But there's always light."

Continued on next page

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President-elect Joe Biden and his wife Jill Biden board a plane at New Castle Airport, Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021, in New Castle, Del. **Associated Press**

**Continued from Front**

Biden, who ran for the presidency as a cool head who could get things done, plans to issue a series of executive orders on Day One — including reversing President Donald Trump's effort to leave the Paris climate accord, canceling his travel ban on visitors from several predominantly Muslim countries, and extending pandemic-era limits on evictions and student loan payments. Trump won't attend Biden's inauguration, the first outgoing president to skip the ceremony since Andrew Johnson more than a century and a half ago. Trump remained out of sight in the White House on Tuesday with a bare announced schedule. Aides said he had recorded a farewell message and was consulting with advisers on final-hour pardons and grants of clemency.

Trump plans to depart from Washington Wednesday morning in a grand airbase ceremony that he helped plan himself. Biden at his Delaware farewell, held at the National Guard/Reserve Center named after his late son Beau Biden, paid tribute to his home state. After his remarks, he stopped and chatted with friends and well-wishers in the crowd, much like an Iowa rope line at the start of his long campaign journey. "I'll always be a proud son of the state of Delaware," said Biden, who struggled to hold back tears as he delivered brief remarks. Aides say that Biden's first event in Washington, along with Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, will be to take part in an evening ceremony at the Reflecting Pool near the Lincoln Memorial to honor the 400,000 American lives lost to CO-

VID-19. Inaugural organizers on Monday finished installing some 200,000 small U.S., state and territorial flags on the National Mall, a display to represent the American people who couldn't come to the inauguration, which is restricted under the tight security and Covid restrictions. It's also a reminder of all the president-elect faces as he looks to steer the nation through the pandemic with infections and deaths soaring. Out of the starting gate, Biden and his team are intent on moving quickly to speed up the distribution of vaccinations to anxious Americans and pass his \$1.9 trillion virus relief package, which includes quick payments to many people and an increase in the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Biden also plans to unveil a sweeping immigration bill

on the first day of his administration, hoping to provide an eight-year path to citizenship for an estimated 11 million people living in the U.S. without legal status. That would be a major reversal from the Trump administration's tight immigration policies. But Biden's legislative ambitions could be tempered by the hard truth he faces on Capitol Hill, where Democrats hold narrow majorities in both the Senate and House. His hopes to press forward with an avalanche of legislation in his first 100 days could also be slowed by an impeachment trial of Trump. As Biden prepared to make his way to Washington, five of his Cabinet picks were appearing on Tuesday before Senate committees to begin confirmation hearings. Treasury nominee Janet Yellen, Defense nominee Lloyd Austin, Homeland Security nominee Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary of State nominee Antony Blinken and Director of National Intelligence nominee Avril Haines were being questioned. Yellen at her confirmation hearing urged lawmakers

to embrace Biden's virus relief package, arguing that "the smartest thing we can do is act big." Aides say Biden will use Wednesday's inaugural address — one that will be delivered in front of an unusually small in-person group because of virus protocols and security concerns and is expected to run 20 to 30 minutes — to call for American unity and offer an optimistic message that Americans can get past the dark moment by working together. To that end, he extended invitations to Congress' top four Republican and Democratic leaders to attend Mass with him at St. Matthew's Cathedral ahead of the inauguration ceremony. As Biden presses bipartisanship, he's also facing pressure from his left to go big right away, with the progressive wing of the Democratic Party calling on Senate Democrats to help by doing away with the chamber's filibuster.

"We are glad President-elect Biden is ready to start addressing the desperate needs of the American people and put forth a Covid aid proposal which begins to address the many issues we face," the progressive groups Justice Democrats, Sunrise Movement and New Deal Strategies wrote in a memo on Monday. "We hope ten Senate Republicans will support it, but are not holding our breath. The big question is, what happens when Republicans block Biden?" Ahead of Biden's arrival, 12 U.S. Army National Guard members were removed from the presidential inauguration security mission after they were found to have ties with right-wing militia groups or posted extremist views online, according to two U.S. officials. There was no threat to President-elect Joe Biden, they said. The officials, a senior intelligence official and an Army official briefed on the matter, did not say which fringe group the Guard members belonged to or what unit they served in. The officials were not authorized to speak publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. □



# 12 Guard members removed from Biden inauguration

**JAMES LAPORTA and MICHAEL BALSAMO**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Twelve U.S. Army National Guard members have been removed from the presidential inauguration security mission after they were found to have ties with right-wing militia groups or posted extremist views online, according to two U.S. officials. There was no threat to President-elect Joe Biden, they said. The officials, a senior intelligence official and an Army official briefed on the matter, did not say which fringe group the Guard members belonged to or what unit they served in. The officials were not authorized to speak publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Their removal from the massive security presence at the nation's capital comes as the FBI worked to vet all of the 25,000 National Guard troops headed to the area for Biden's inauguration Wednesday. U.S. defense officials have been worried about a potential insider attack or other threat from service members following the deadly



Riot shields are stacked at the ready as National Guard troops reinforce the security zone on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021, before President-elect Joe Biden is sworn in as the 46th president on Wednesday.

Associated Press

riot at the U.S. Capitol Jan. 6 by Trump supporters that shocked the nation. Acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller said in a statement Monday that vetting of National Guard troops continues and that the Pentagon has found no intelligence so far that would indicate an insider threat.

Washington has been on edge since the deadly insurrection at the Capitol, which has prompted extraordinary security measures ahead of Biden's inauguration. A fire in a homeless camp roughly a mile from the Capitol complex prompted a lockdown Monday during a rehearsal for the inauguration.

U.S. Secret Service tightened security in and around the Capitol days earlier than usual in preparation, and the city center is essentially on lockdown with streets blocked, high fencing installed and tens of thousands of troops and law enforcement officers stationed around the area. Federal law enforcement

officials have also been wary of increased surveillance of military and law enforcement checkpoints and other positions after National Guard troops reported people taking pictures and recording them, said the law enforcement officials, who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to discuss ongoing security matters.

The Secret Service issued a bulletin over the weekend about what it sees as an "uptick" in National Guard troops posting pictures and details of their operations online.

The Associated Press obtained the "all concerned" message sent to all National Guard troops coming to Washington. Without getting into specific postings, the bulletin read: "No service members should be posting locations, pictures or descriptions online regarding current operations or the sensitive sites they are protecting" and urged them to stop immediately. Asked about the bulletin, a spokesperson for the Secret Service issued a statement saying it "does not comment on matters of protective intelligence." □

## U.S. virus death toll tops 400,000 in Trump's final hours

**By The Associated Press**  
The U.S. death toll from the coronavirus eclipsed 400,000 on Tuesday in the waning hours in office for President Donald Trump, whose handling of the crisis has been judged by public health experts a singular failure. The running total of lives lost, as compiled by Johns Hopkins University, is nearly equal to the number of Americans killed in World II. It is about the population of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Tampa, Florida; or New Orleans. It is equivalent to the sea of humanity that was at Woodstock in 1969. It is just short of the estimated 409,000 Americans who died in 2019 of strokes, Alzheimer's, diabetes, flu and pneumonia combined. And the virus isn't finished

with the U.S. by any means, even with the arrival of the vaccines that could finally vanquish the outbreak: A widely cited model by the University of Washington projects the death toll will reach nearly 567,000 by May 1. While the Trump administration has been credited with Operation Warp Speed, the crash program to develop and distribute coronavirus vaccines, Trump has repeatedly downplayed the threat, mocked masks, railed against lockdowns, promoted unproven and unsafe treatments, undercut scientific experts and expressed scant compassion for the victims. Even his own bout with COVID-19 seemed to leave him unchanged.

The White House defended the administration. "We grieve every single life lost to this pandemic, and thanks to the president's leadership, Operation Warp Speed has led to the development of multiple safe and effective vaccines in record time, something many said would never happen," said White House spokesman Judd Deere. President-elect Joe Biden takes office on Wednesday. The nation reached the 400,000 milestone in just under a year. The first known deaths from the virus in the U.S. were in early February 2020, both of them in Santa Clara County, California. While the count is based on figures supplied by government agencies



In this Oct. 27, 2020, Artist Suzanne Brennan Firstenberg walks among thousands of white flags planted in remembrance of Americans who have died of COVID-19 near Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington.

Associated Press

around the world, the real death toll is believed to be significantly higher, in part because of inadequate testing and cases inaccurately attributed to other

causes early on. It took four months to reach the first 100,000 dead. It took just over a month to go from 300,000 to 400,000. □

# U.S. soldier arrested in plot to blow up NYC 9/11 Memorial

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A U.S. Army soldier was arrested Tuesday in Georgia on terrorism charges after he spoke online about plots to blow up New York City's 9/11 Memorial and other landmarks and attack U.S. soldiers in the Middle East, authorities said Tuesday.

Cole James Bridges of Stow, Ohio, was in custody on charges of attempted material support of a terrorist organization — the Islamic State group — and attempted murder of a military member, said Nicholas Biase, a spokesperson for Manhattan federal prosecutors.

The 20-year-old soldier, also known as Cole Gonzales, was with the Third Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Georgia, when he thought he was communicating with the Islamic State online about the terrorism plots, Biase said.

Unbeknownst to Bridges, an FBI employee was in on the chat as Bridges provided detailed instructions on tactics and manuals and advice about attacking the memorial and other targets in New York City, Biase said.

"As we allege today, Bridges, a private in the U.S. Army, betrayed our country and his unit when he plotted with someone he believed was an ISIS sympathizer to help ISIS attack and kill U.S. soldiers in the



In this Friday Sept. 11, 2020, file photo, a mourner prays over the etched name of the deceased Emilio Pete Ortiz at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York.

Associated Press

Middle East," said William F. Sweeney Jr., head of New York City's FBI office.

"Fortunately, the person with whom he communicated was an FBI employee, and we were able to prevent his evil desires from coming to fruition," Sweeney said in a release.

"Our troops risk their lives for our country, but they should never face such peril at the hands of one of their own," U.S. Attorney Audrey Strauss said.

Bridges was scheduled to make an initial appearance in federal court in Augusta, Georgia, on Thursday.

It was not immediately clear who would represent him.

According to a criminal complaint in Manhattan federal court, Bridges joined the U.S. Army in September 2019 and was assigned as a cavalry scout in Fort Stewart.

At some point, he began

researching and consuming online propaganda promoting jihadists and their violent ideology, authorities said.

They said he expressed his support for the Islamic State group and jihad on social media before he began communicating in October with an FBI employee who posed as an Islamic State group supporter in contact with the group's fighters in the Middle East.

According to court papers,

he expressed his frustration with the U.S. military and his desire to aid the Islamic State group.

The criminal complaint said he then provided training and guidance to purported Islamic State fighters who were planning attacks, including advice about potential targets in New York City, including the 9/11 Memorial.

It said he also provided portions of a U.S. Army training manual and guidance about military combat tactics.

Bridges also diagrammed specific military maneuvers to help the terrorist group's fighters kill U.S. troops, including the best way to fortify an encampment to repel an attack by U.S. Special Forces and how to wire certain buildings with explosives to kill the U.S. troops, the complaint said. This month, according to the complaint, Bridges sent a video of himself in body armor standing before an Islamic State flag, gesturing support.

A week later, Bridges sent a second video in which he used a voice manipulator and narrated a propaganda speech in support of the Islamic State group's anticipated ambush of U.S. troops, the complaint said. Fort Stewart officials had no immediate comment Tuesday, said Kevin Larson, a spokesperson for the Army post. □



In this March 12, 2005, file photo, a student leaves after taking the SAT at Upper Arlington High School in Upper Arlington, Ohio.

Associated Press

## SAT doing away with optional essay, subject tests

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The College Board said Tuesday it will eliminate the optional essay from the SAT and do away with subject tests amid a changing college admissions landscape.

"The pandemic has highlighted the importance of being innovative and adaptive to what lies ahead," according to a statement from the not-for-profit College Board, which said it wanted to make the SAT more flexible and reduce the demands on students.

The coronavirus pandemic has forced the widespread cancellation of group testing sessions for the SAT and rival ACT since March, leading numerous schools to eliminate testing requirements for the current admissions cycle. Others have permanently made entrance exams an optional part of applying to college. The three-hour, multiple choice SAT measures math and English language arts proficiency.

The optional essay adds about another hour and is

scored separately, as were the lesser required subject tests given in specific areas like chemistry or foreign languages.

The subject tests will immediately end for U.S. students and will be phased out for international students by June.

The optional essay will be discontinued after June testing sessions.

Nearly 2.2 million 2020 high school graduates took the SAT before the pandemic shut down schools, according to the College Board. □

# Kremlin brushes aside Western calls to release Navalny

By DARIA LITVINOVA

Associated Press

**MOSCOW (AP)** — The Kremlin on Tuesday brushed aside calls from the West to release opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who was arrested upon his return to Russia from Germany following treatment for poisoning with a nerve agent. Moscow called his case “an absolutely internal matter.”

Navalny blames his poisoning on President Vladimir Putin's government, which has denied it. The condemnations of his arrest and the calls from abroad for his release have added to the existing tensions between Russia and the West. Some European Union countries are suggesting more sanctions against Moscow.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that “we can't and are not going to take these statements into account.”

“We are talking about a fact of noncompliance with the Russian law by a citizen of Russia. This is an absolutely internal matter and we will not allow anyone to interfere in it and do not intend to listen to such statements,” Peskov said.

Navalny, 44, was detained



In this image taken from video released by Navalny Life youtube channel, Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny speaks as he waits for a court hearing in a police station in Khimki, outside in Moscow, Russia, Monday, Jan. 18, 2021.

Associated Press

Sunday evening at passport control at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport after arriving from Berlin, where he was treated following the poisoning in August. On Monday, he was ordered to pre-trial detention for 30 days during a court hearing that was hastily set up in a police precinct where Navalny was being held.

Russia's prison service maintains that Navalny,

Russia's most prominent opposition figure and anti-corruption campaigner, violated the probation terms of his suspended sentence on a 2014 money-laundering conviction, which was deemed “arbitrary” by the European Court of Human Rights.

Officials are seeking to send Navalny to prison to serve the 3 1/2-year suspended sentence.

He has interpreted the crackdown against him as a sign of Putin's fear. Peskov dismissed suggestions that Putin was afraid of Navalny as “nonsense” and insisted that he had violated the law. The spokesman said the questions law enforcement had for Navalny “have nothing whatsoever to do with the Russian president.”

Navalny fell into a coma

while aboard a domestic flight from Siberia to Moscow on Aug. 20 and was flown to a Berlin hospital two days later. Labs in Germany, France and Sweden, and tests by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, established that he was exposed to a Soviet-era Novichok nerve agent.

Russian authorities insisted that the doctors who treated Navalny in Siberia found no traces of poison and refused to open a full-fledged criminal investigation.

After Navalny was jailed Monday, his allies announced preparations for nationwide protests on Saturday and released a video of Navalny urging people to not “be afraid” and “take to the streets.”

Peskov said that while the calls to take to the streets were “alarming,” the Kremlin didn't fear mass protests. Also on Tuesday, Navalny's team released a two-hour video investigation of what they called “Putin's palace” — an estate on Russia's Black Sea that they said cost \$1.3 billion and was allegedly funded through an elaborate corruption scheme involving Putin's inner circle. □

## Dutch govt to beef up lockdown amid fears about new variants

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands**

**(AP)** — The Dutch government said Tuesday it needs to beef up lockdown measures “as soon as possible” to rein in the spread of the coronavirus amid fears about more transmissible variants.

Health Minister Hugo de Jonge said in a letter to parliament that the government will announce extra measures on Wednesday afternoon.

The Netherlands is not alone in considering tougher measures. In neighboring Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel was holding a virtual meeting with the governors of the country's 16 states to discuss pandemic mea-

asures amid concerns about new mutations triggering a fresh surge in cases. The Netherlands has been in a tough lockdown for a month and will remain that way at least until at least Feb. 9, but the slow decrease in the number of new infections and the threat posed by new variants have prompted the government to consider a tightening that is expected to include a curfew for the first time since the pandemic began.

The Dutch public health institute announced Tuesday that new infections decreased by 21.5% over the past week to 38,776, in what it called a “moderately positive picture” of the effects of the lockdown.

However, it added that the decrease was “overshadowed” by a rise in the percentage of people who have a new, more transmissible variant of the virus that led to a sharp spike in infections in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Some 10% of new infections are with the new variant and the institute said it expects that to rise to at least 50% by mid-February. The institute said in a statement that there are now “two separate corona epidemics. An epidemic with the ‘old’ variant in which infections are falling, and an epidemic with the British variant in which the number of infections is rising.”

Dutch efforts to tackle

the virus have been complicated by the government's resignation on Friday over a scandal involving thousands of parents wrongly being labeled fraudsters by the country's tax office.

Prime Minister Mark Rutte's four-party coalition re-

mains in office in caretaker mode until a new government is formed after March 17 elections and will have to seek backing from lawmakers for any new measures. It remains unclear if Rutte can find a majority in parliament to support a curfew. □



The capital's popular Nine Streets shopping area is near-deserted during lockdown in Amsterdam, Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021.

Associated Press

## Survey: Major European allies optimistic about Biden admin

By DAVID RISING  
Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — U.S. President-elect Joe Biden will assume office amid a surge in optimism among major European allies, and at home, about the future of trans-Atlantic relations and American foreign policy in general, a poll showed Tuesday.

Four years of President Donald Trump's "America First" approach to foreign policy, which included bashing traditional NATO friends and questioning the alliance itself while embracing authoritarian leaders, as well as new trade tariffs, have frayed relations with many in Europe.

But with the election of Biden, well-known to many in Europe already from his years as vice president and decades in the senate, wide majorities in Germany, France and Britain are looking favorably to the coming years, according to the Washington-based Pew Research Center's survey conducted late last year. In both France and Germany 84% of respondents said they were optimistic about



File picture taken Friday, Feb. 1, 2013 shows German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, and United States' Vice President Joe Biden at the chancellery in Berlin, Germany.

Associated Press

the future of their country's relationship with the U.S., as did 72% in Britain. In the U.S., 73% of respondents said they were optimistic about future relations with Europe. When asked specifically about Biden, 79% of Germans, 72% of French and 65% of British respondents said they had confidence in him to do the right thing regarding world affairs. All three countries

were consistently negative about Trump's performance on the international stage during his time in office, according to Pew Research Center's polling. Only about 1 in 10 Germans expressed confidence in his handling of world affairs in each of the four surveys conducted in the country during his presidency, for example.

European politicians have

been cautious in their own optimism about the upcoming Biden presidency, noting that Washington's stance on some contentious issues like NATO spending and opposition to the German-Russian Nord Stream 2 pipeline project are not likely to change significantly.

At the same time, Europe is looking forward to Biden reversing two major Trump

pullbacks from multilateral cooperation: the outgoing president's decision to withdraw from the World Health Organization, announced last year, and the U.S. exit from the Paris climate agreement.

The Pew survey indicated broad majorities in all three of the countries believe U.S. foreign policy, its response to climate change and its approach to the coronavirus outbreak will improve under Biden. Overall, however, there was only a slight uptick in views of the U.S. in general, with about half of the respondents in France and Britain, and only about four in 10 Germans, seeing the country favorably.

Though conducted before the storming of the Capitol in Washington earlier this month, the survey also revealed there were already widespread concerns about the health of U.S. democracy among the three of America's closest allies. Pew found that 73% of Germans, 64% of French and 62% of British respondents said the American political system needs major changes or complete reform. □

## Group: Billion in aid needed to help Afghan kids in 2021

By RAHIM FAIEZ  
Associated Press

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)** — Some 10 million children in war-ravaged Afghanistan are at risk of not having enough food to eat in 2021, a humanitarian organization said Tuesday and called for \$1.3 billion in new funds for aid.

Just over 18 million Afghans, including 9.7 million children, are badly in need of lifesaving support, including food, Save the Children said in a statement. The group called for \$1.3 billion in donations to pay for assistance in 2021. Chris Nyamandi, the organization's Afghanistan

country director, said Afghans are suffering under a combination of violent conflict, poverty and the virus pandemic. "It's a desperately bad situation that needs urgent attention from the international community," he said.

The latest round of peace talks between the Taliban and Afghan government negotiators that began earlier this month in Qatar has been slow to produce results as concerns grow over a recent spike in violence across Afghanistan. The pandemic has also had a disastrous impact on millions of Afghan families. In 2020, the World Bank estimated that the pandemic had hugely disrupted imports, including vital household items, which in turn led to rapid inflation. The added health and economic strains of the

pandemic have deepened the humanitarian impact across the country. Many Afghans also blame runaway government corruption and lawlessness for the country's poor economy.

The U.N. and its humanitarian partners will seek \$1.3 billion in aid for 16 million Afghans in need this year, U.N. secretary-general spokesman Stephane Dujarric, said this month. That's up from an estimated 2.3 million people last year who needed life-saving assistance.

"It's a huge increase in people who need aid," he said.

Nyamandi said that with no immediate end in sight to the decades-long conflict, millions of people will continue to suffer. "It's especially hard on children, many of whom have

known nothing but violence," he said.

According to the U.N., nearly 6,000 people — a third of them children — were killed or wounded in fighting in Afghanistan between January and September last year, Nyamandi said. The violence continues to force hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes every year and limit people's access to resources including hospitals and clinics.

In a Save the Children report in December, the group said more than 300,000 Afghan children faced freezing winter conditions that could lead to illness and death without proper winter clothing and heating. The organization provided winter kits to more than 100,000 families in 12 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. □



An internally displaced girl poses for photograph outside her temporary home in the city of Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, Jan. 18, 2021.

Associated Press

## Spaniards killed women, kids over slaying of conquistadores

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — New research suggests Spanish conquistadores butchered at least a dozen women and their children in an Aztec-allied town where the inhabitants sacrificed and ate a detachment of Spaniards they had captured months earlier.

The National Institute of Anthropology and History published findings Monday from years of excavation work at the town of Tecoaque, which means “the place where they ate them” in the Nahuatl language of the Aztecs.

Residents of Tecoaque, also known as Zultepec, captured a convoy of about 15 male Spaniards, 50 women and 10 children, 45 foot soldiers who included Cubans of African and Indigenous descent, and about 350 allies from Indigenous groups in 1520. All were apparently sacrificed over the space of months.

When he heard about it, conquistador Hernán Cortes ordered Gonzalo de Sandoval to destroy the town in revenge in early 1521.

Archeologist Enrique Martínez Vargas said excavations suggest the inhabitants of Tecoaque knew a



In this Oct. 8, 2015 file photo, the skeletons of sacrificed Spaniards are displayed inside a glass case at the museum of the Zultepec-Tecoaque archeological site in Tlaxcala state, Mexico.

Associated Press

reprisal attack was coming and tossed the bones of the Spaniards — some of which had been carved into trophies — and other evidence into shallow wells. The townspeople also tried to erect some primitive defensive works along the main thoroughfare of the town, none of which worked when De Sandoval and his punitive expedition rode in.

“Some of the warriors who

had stayed in the town managed to flee, but women and children remained, and they were the main victims,” the institute said in a statement.

“This we have been able to demonstrate over a 120-meter (yard) stretch of the main thoroughfare, where the skeletons of a dozen women were found who appeared to be ‘protecting’ the bones of ten children between the ages

of five and six.”

Photos of the excavations show children’s bones beside those of the adult females, with some of the women’s skulls or arm bones turned toward the youngsters.

“The placement of the burials suggest these people were fleeing, were massacred and buried hurriedly,” the institute said. “Women and children who were sheltering inside rooms

were mutilated, as evidenced by the discovery of hacked bones on the floors. The temples were burned and the statues were decapitated.”

Cruelty was on display on both side in Tecoaque, the site of one of the worst defeats in the Spanish Conquest of 1519-21.

The heads of the captive Spanish women were strung up on skull racks alongside those of men.

An analysis of the bones revealed the women were pregnant, and in pre-Hispanic practice that may have qualified them as “warriors.” Another sacrificial offering included one woman’s body that was cut in half near the remains of a dismembered child aged 3 or 4.

One Spanish male was dismembered and burned to replicate the mythical fates of Aztec-era gods, according to one myth known as “El Quinto Sol,” or Fifth Sun. The convoy was comprised of people sent from Cuba in a second expedition a year after Cortes’ initial landing in 1519 and they were heading to the Aztec capital with supplies and the conquerors’ possessions. □

## Thai leader threatens punishment for false vaccine news

**BANGKOK (AP)** — Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha warned Tuesday that his government will prosecute anyone who shares false information about coronavirus vaccines in social or mass media.

The government already has the power to impose punishments under a state of emergency that was declared last March to deal with the health threat.

Prayuth’s warning was an apparent reaction to charges that his government has done too little to acquire adequate supplies of vaccines.

The criticism took on a sharp political tinge after a popular politician aired such allegations in an in-

ternet broadcast Monday night.

Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit, former leader of the dissolved Future Forward Party, accused the government of acting too slowly to inoculate the country’s population. Thanathorn has long been a thorn in the side of Prayuth’s government.

His party made a strong third-place showing in the 2019 general election, but he was forced out of Parliament when a court ruled that he had broken an election law. His party was later dissolved on a similar technicality.

There also have been allegations that well-connected companies stand to profit unfairly from government contracts to pro-

duce a vaccine, charges denied by the government and the companies involved.

“Do not blame me for threatening legal action,” Prayuth said. “I need to keep people’s confidence and trust in government.” Health officials at a news conference Tuesday defended the effort to procure vaccines.

Supakit Sirilak, director general of the Medical Science Department, said the Health Ministry has been working to obtain vaccine supplies since last February, but has taken time to evaluate which are appropriate.

He said the government has targeted having enough vaccines to cover 50% of the population by

the end of this year, and is attempting to secure more supplies to cover everyone.

A first batch of 200,000 doses of Sinovac vaccine from China is scheduled to arrive next month. After

that, 26 million doses of a vaccine developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca, a British-Swedish pharmaceutical company, to be manufactured in Thailand will start being distributed in May. □



Thai classical dancers wearing face shields to help curb the spread of the coronavirus perform at the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok, Thailand, Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021.

Associated Press

# LOCAL



**NOORD** — Tuscany Residence Aruba is found in one of the most popular neighborhoods of Aruba, close to the shopping and nightlife of Palm Beach, and best of all it is within walking distance of the finest white beaches and clear blue ocean. Tuscany Residence Aruba brings luxury living to a new level.

180 exclusive properties will be built suitable for everyone's wishes. The buildings varies greatly in layout and offers amazing views. You can choose from 2 or 3-story villas with a private pool and a rooftop terrace, condominiums, townhouses. Tuscany Residence Aruba enjoys an abundance of luxury amenities and services. Soon a new concept consisting of 18, 1 and 2- story water villas. Everything is aimed at providing homeowners and holiday makers of Tuscany Residence Aruba with a relaxing stay.

### Dutch design

Tuscany Residence Aruba is a residence that is currently being built and will develop in the coming years into a luxury residential resort with various types of homes and many amenities such as swimming pools, restaurant, bar, offices, meeting rooms, gym, wellness and more. The combination of the beautiful Dutch modern international architecture and the Aruban palm trees creates a luxurious Aruban feeling and relaxed atmosphere in this resort. Tuscany Residence Aruba is the perfect choice for couples and families. Bas de Groot, Managing Director of Tuscany Residence Aruba adds, "We differ from traditional building, our design distinguishes itself." At 8 minutes' walk from Palm Beach, designed in a European style with high-quality materials, on property land and with buying possibilities from condos to townhouses to villas, Tuscany Residence is a dream comes true. "We just completed the community pool and the first villa. Eight townhouses are ready and three are still available. There is lots to see, you are invited. Our quality will convince you."

### We take care of it all

De Groot adds, "Our project is in continuous construction which builds confidence. Aside of the town houses and villa you can see the community pool now, providing you with the idea of style and quality of our residence." He continues saying that maintenance, property management, rental program and safety are taken care of. "You can log in from abroad and manage your property for rental or view your administration." The great thing about Tuscany is that it offers everything equal to a resort but you do not need to wait for an elevator to bring you up,

## Welcome to Tuscany Residence Aruba: Aruba's Luxury Residential Resort

worry about parking space or noisy neighbors. "We have got space and different size offerings making this more a community feel rather than a packed condo building." He also emphasizes that the location is one of the best on Aruba as it is quiet and close to Palm Beach.



### Townhouses

3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms  
Price starting U.S. \$ 347,000, community fee U.S. \$ 200/month  
Still 3 Available.



### Luxury Villas

3 and 4 bedrooms, 3.5 and 4.5 bathrooms, Private Pool  
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Still 2 Available.

### Coming Soon: 18 Luxury Water Villas

The Concept: 18- 2 and 3 bedroom villas around 1 communal pool with covered terrace and garden at the pool side. Soon we will start the presale and if you are interested please contact us!

### Reasons to buy

Reasons to consider Aruba property ownership, at Tuscany Residence Aruba

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- Property land on top-location
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**Secretary of State for the Dutch Caribbean islands Raymond Knops: "This summer Aruba must take care themselves of all social assistance and food aid"**

By Caribisch Netwerk  
ORANJESTAD — At the moment a quarter of the Aruban population depends on food aid. But from this summer onwards, the island itself should be able again to help this group and other people who rely on, for example, the Emergency Social Assistance Fund (FASE) due to the corona crisis.



Caribisch Netwerk, Red Cross director Michel La Haye explains the food coupon to State Secretary Raymond Knops

This is what State Secretary Raymond Knops says during his working visit to Aruba, where he also visited the Red Cross. "These are gigantic numbers that have been dependent on food aid for a long time." It has not yet been decided whether the Netherlands will again give money for emergency aid. "Those decisions will be made shortly, so I cannot anticipate that. At the same time, I also add, and that has now also been my signal to the Aruban government: we will be a year later soon, are we still talking about emergency aid or is this a situation that had to be dealt with by the country itself?" The Red Cross reports that during the corona crisis it distributed 75,000 hot meals in Aruba and 8,000 e-vouchers with which 20,000 people could shop. They have also supported more than 100 doctor visits to patients. Other aid organizations also provide thousands of people with meals and food every week. Many of the families in

need of help do not have legal status. Aid organizations already estimated in April last year that this number is about 20 thousand. The undocumented are not entitled to assistance from the government so they should seek help from the aid organizations, said the Aruban prime minister last year. However, the Red Cross does not receive any money from the local government for this support. The millions they received last year were donated by the Dutch government. Knops again emphasizes that agreements have been made with Aruba stating the island will handle everything itself from the summer onwards. "Everything that has to do with welfare, social assistance, special assistance, food aid will no longer be a Kingdom task, nor is it the task of an emergency relief organization such as the Red Cross. At least not in the size as they do now. It is important that the country of Aruba

takes care of everything that concerns assistance to their people in the coming period. "With regards to the undocumented migrants who need help, the Dutch administrator thinks that Aruba should act upon. "I think this is a problem that has now clearly surfaced and the country of Aruba cannot ignore it. You cannot use the undocumented in the economy at times when the need is high and when a crisis occurs point out to these people as the first to take the blow and say: now we do not need you anymore." The land packages which are agreed with the Dutch for Aruba, Curaçao and St. Maarten also contain measures to tackle illegal work and also to prevent foreign workers from working illegally on the islands. But Knops says there must also be a safety net for people who have absolutely nothing. "A lot has to be done in this area in the coming months." □

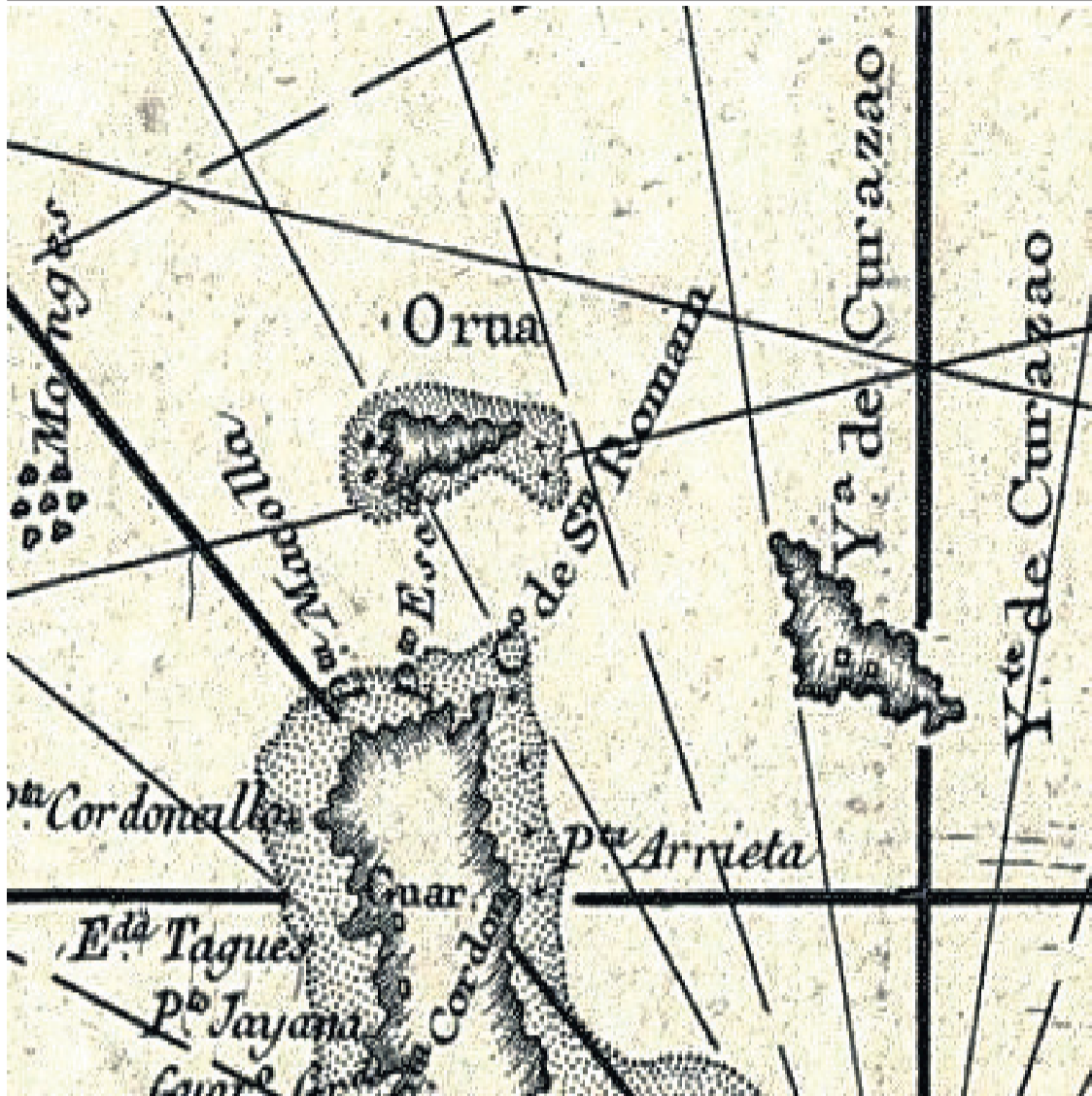
**Aruba to me**



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**ORANJESTAD** — There are different theories about the origin of the name Aruba. Most probably the name is of Indian origin, two words joined together like ora (shell) and oubao (island), so that would mean Shell Island. Another explanation would be the combination of uru (canoe) and oubao (island), which could be explained by the fact that the Indians used canoes on the sea and that's how they have populated Aruba.

But other theories claim the name Aruba comes from Spanish, oro hubo (there was gold); however, this contradicts the findings of the Spaniards when they discovered Aruba.

The first mention of a name that resembles Aruba is on a map from 1562, where it says Orua. On other maps

from the 16th and 17th century, names like Oruba, Ouraba, Uruba and Arouba are to be found.

Very little is known about the original inhabitants of Aruba. Excavations show that the island has been populated for hundreds of years before it was discovered by the Spaniards. This period is called the pre-Columbian era. The primitive population of Aruba consisted of Arowak Indians. Archeological research has demonstrated that our island was populated by Indians who had the same culture as the inhabitants of the South-American continent. Further evidence of the supposition of the South-American origins of the Indians is to be found in the primitive drawings that have been discovered in a lot of places, mostly at the

entrance to caves. Moreover, the dead were buried in large urns, like it was the case in Amazonia.

In the fourteenth century, the Caribs conquered Aruba; they themselves had been driven out before by South-American tribes. By the time the Spaniards came to Aruba, the Indians still lived in the Stone Age; they lived scattered in small groups in simple mud huts. They lived of catching fish and collecting natural food. We know from excavations that they lived in Savaneta, Santa Cruz and Tanki Flip.

The oldest Indians must have lived on Aruba as of about 2500 BC. They were fishermen, hunters and collectors of food and they used primitive tools, made

## Indians

out of stones and shell (carc6). The oldest excavations, those of Canashito and Malmok, are of Indians who have lived around or shortly after the beginning of our Christian era (500 – 800 AD). The arrangement of their graves and burial sites show a clear hierarchy, dominated by males. The finds of about 900 BC belong to the Ceramic period; the Indians made pottery and they tilled the soil. In this period, the Indians had fixed settlements. Excavations and finds on the Venezuelan continent, around Coro, show a lot of resemblances to those of Aruba. In Venezuela the Indian called themselves Caquetios, according to the Spaniards, and most probably, the Indians from the islands were Caquetios too. They lived in family settlements, in huts located in groups around one another. A burial mound was part of it too. The Indians slept in hammocks and they used stone tools like axes, chisels and grindstones. They used these to grind the corn. Most frequent finds are of ceramics, mainly fragments. The Indians made their pottery, pans and plates themselves, without a potter's wheel or an oven. These were formed by hand and baked in a fire pitch. Often they were painted or ornate with heads of animals or humans. Jewelry has been found too, made out of pierced shell.

The Indians of Aruba buried their dead mostly in burial pits, sometimes in urns, in which the dead were placed in squatted position. A few times objects, like little pots or plates, were added to the grave. Those

were found in Savaneta and Santa Cruz, amongst other spots.

The Indians of Aruba made drawings on rock walls, mostly in caves. The Indians did not live there, so these were supposedly religious places. They can be found in the caves of Fontein, Guadarikiri and at Arikok. The drawings were made with red dye and they represented geometrical figures where a human or a kind of animal (a fish, maybe a (now extinct) Caribbean Monk Seal) appears to be depicted.

Archeological research has taken place since the end of the 19th century, when the Dutch priest Van Koolwijk discovered Indian drawings and made excavations from 1880 till 1886. The first archaeologist who performed excavations on Aruba was De Josselin de Jong in 1923 in Santa Cruz. P. Wagenaar Hummelinck studied and made an inventory of locations with rock drawings. After those, several amateur archeologists made finds and registered them, like Ringma (1957, Canashito), Mario Odor, Thomas Angela (Sta Cruz), Johnny Dania (idem), Huib Bongers (1962, Savaneta) and Ewald Biemans.

In the eighties, archeologist Egbert Boerstra was director of the Archeologic Museum Aruba (AMA). He performed excavations in Santa Cruz, Tanki Flip and Malmok. In 1988 cooperation was established between the University of Leiden and the AMA. Dr. A.H. Versteeg performed several large scale projects, amongst which the one at Tanki Flip (1994). Source (text & pictures): [www.historiadiaruba.aw](http://www.historiadiaruba.aw). □



## High-tech indoor farmer AppHarvest starts shipping tomatoes

By DEE-ANN DURBIN

**AppHarvest** — an indoor farming company backed by Martha Stewart — thinks the agriculture sector is ripe for disruption. And now, its tomatoes are ripe for eating.

The Morehead, Kentucky-based company said Tuesday it has begun shipping beefsteak tomatoes to Kroger, Walmart, Publix and other grocers. Eventually, AppHarvest plans to ship 45 million pounds of tomatoes each year from its 60-acre indoor farm in Morehead.

AppHarvest is one of many players in the fast-growing field of indoor farming. Others include New York-based Gotham Greens, which has eight urban greenhouses across the U.S., and Plenty, a vertical farming startup in San Francisco. In a recent global survey, Agritecture Consulting — which works with urban farmers — found that at least 74 indoor farming companies were founded in 2020 alone.

The industry is getting a boost from high-tech farming techniques developed in the highly profitable cannabis industry, said Evan Lucas, an assistant professor at Northern Michigan Uni-



This Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 photo provided by AppHarvest shows tomatoes being grown in their Morehead, Ky. facility.

versity who heads its indoor agriculture program. Falling costs for LED lighting have also helped decrease the cost of operating indoor farms, he said.

Greenhouses have been around for decades, but not until recently have they grown into such large-scale facilities. At the same time, consumers are increasingly looking for better-tasting, sustainably produced

food, Stewart said. AppHarvest uses no chemical pesticides and says its tomatoes are bred for flavor, not long-haul travel, unlike tomatoes grown in Mexico.

"We know how flavorless and devoid of nutrients tomatoes are when they are picked a month ago," said Stewart during a video news conference Tuesday. "I think that we all need and want better food for us, for

our families, for our friends." Stewart also wants organic produce to be more affordable and accessible. She said she was shocked when she went to the grocery last Saturday and had to pay \$98 for a small cart full of organic vegetables. AppHarvest says its Morehead greenhouse, which houses 720,000 tomato plants over the equivalent of 45 football fields, is one

of the largest single-story buildings in the world. Its tomato plants will be harvested continually and can grow to 45 feet high, helping achieve 30 times the yield of a traditional farm.

Founder and CEO Jonathan Webb, a Kentucky native, said Appalachia is ideal because of its heavy rainfall. AppHarvest uses only recycled rainwater to water its plants.

But Webb said AppHarvest is also keen to invest in an economically depressed region which has long depended on coal. Webb said the Morehead farm's 350 employees all make at least \$15 per hour and have health benefits. The company received more than 10,000 applications for those spots, he said.

In addition to Stewart, "Hillbilly Elegy" author J.D. Vance is a member of AppHarvest's board. Vance's venture capital fund, Narya, is an investor in AppHarvest, which plans a public stock listing this year. AppHarvest is currently building a 60-acre facility in Richmond, Kentucky, and a 15-acre facility to grow leafy greens in Berea, Kentucky. □

Associated Press

## Stores drop MyPillow after CEO pushes election conspiracies

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The founder of MyPillow, a vocal and in the past few weeks very visible supporter of President Donald Trump, says a backlash against the company has begun after a mob stormed the U.S. Capitol this month.

Mike Lindell, the company CEO and also the face of the brand, said major retailers like Bed Bath & Beyond and Kohl's have dropped his products recently.

Both companies confirmed the decision to cease carrying the brand Tuesday, but cited flagging sales rather than Lindell's actions or his support for Trump.

"There has been decreased customer demand for MyPillow," Kohl's said in an email. "We will sell our cur-

rent inventory and not buy additional/future inventory in the brand."

Lindell has continued to push bogus claims of election fraud since Trump's loss to President-elect Joe Biden in the presidential race.

That has led to extensive pressure on social media for outlets carrying MyPillow, based in Chaska, Minnesota, southwest of Minneapolis, to drop the brand.

Other companies have been caught in the crossfire as once-loyal customers are repulsed by the support of some executives for Trump.

Many households purged their pantries of Goya products after the CEO of the company appeared next to Trump at the White

House and praised him effusively.

Retailers during the Trump administration have wrestled with an extremely divisive political environment, risking the loss of business from one side or the other. Among the first brands to get a public pink slip was Ivanka Trump clothing, which Nordstrom stopped carrying in early 2017.

The company, like those dropping MyPillow, cited steadily declining sales but it was boycotted nonetheless by Trump supporters. President Trump complained on Twitter that Nordstrom treated his daughter "so unfairly."

Other retailers dropped the brand, however, and it closed for business a year later.

Speaking with Right Side



In this March 30, 2020 file photo, My Pillow CEO Mike Lindell speaks about the coronavirus in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

Broadcasting Network, which is best known for its live stream coverage of Trump rallies on its YouTube channel, Lindell said this week that Bed Bath & Beyond and Kohl's were good companies but were

feeling pressured by social media campaigns.

"I told them, you guys come back any time you want," he said in a video released on YouTube. "It's not their fault that they're scared." □

# A new COVID-19 challenge: Mutations rise along with cases

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**  
AP Chief Medical Writer

The race against the virus that causes COVID-19 has taken a new turn: Mutations are rapidly popping up, and the longer it takes to vaccinate people, the more likely it is that a variant that can elude current tests, treatments and vaccines could emerge.

The coronavirus is becoming more genetically diverse, and health officials say the high rate of new cases is the main reason. Each new infection gives the virus a chance to mutate as it makes copies of itself, threatening to undo the progress made so far to control the pandemic.

On Friday, the World Health Organization urged more effort to detect new variants. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said a new version first identified in the United Kingdom may become dominant in the U.S. by March. Although it doesn't cause more severe illness, it will lead to more hospitalizations and deaths just because it spreads much more easily, said the CDC, warning of "a new phase of exponential growth."

"We're taking it really very seriously," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the U.S. government's top infectious disease expert, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"We need to do everything we can now ... to get transmission as low as we possibly can," said Harvard University's Dr. Michael Mina. "The best way to prevent mutant strains from emerging is to slow transmission."

So far, vaccines seem to remain effective, but there are signs that some of the new mutations may undermine tests for the virus and reduce the effectiveness



In this Jan. 12, 2021, file photo a pharmacist draws saline while preparing a dose of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine in Sacramento, Calif.

Associated Press

of antibody drugs as treatments.

"We're in a race against time" because the virus "may stumble upon a mutation" that makes it more dangerous, said Dr. Pardis Sabeti, an evolutionary biologist at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

Younger people may be less willing to wear masks, shun crowds and take other steps to avoid infection because the current strain doesn't seem to make them very sick, but "in one mutational change, it might," she warned. Sabeti documented a change in the Ebola virus during the 2014 outbreak that made it much worse.

### MUTATIONS ON THE RISE

It's normal for viruses to acquire small changes or mutations in their genetic alphabet as they reproduce. Ones that help the virus flourish give it a competitive advantage and thus

crowd out other versions. In March, just a couple months after the coronavirus was discovered in China, a mutation called D614G emerged that made it more likely to spread. It soon became the dominant version in the world.

Now, after months of relative calm, "we've started to see some striking evolution" of the virus, biologist Trevor Bedford of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle wrote on Twitter last week. "The fact that we've observed three variants of concern emerge since September suggests that there are likely more to come."

One was first identified in the United Kingdom and quickly became dominant in parts of England. It has now been reported in at least 30 countries, including the United States.

Soon afterward, South Africa and Brazil reported new variants. On Tuesday, researchers at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles said yet another new variant has been found in one-third of COVID-19 cases in that city and may have fueled its recent surge in cases.

The main mutation in the

ineffective, Mina said. Because the United States has so many cases, "we can breed our own variants that are just as bad or worse" as those in other countries, he said.

### TREATMENT, VACCINE, RE-INFECTION RISKS

Some lab tests suggest the variants identified in South Africa and Brazil may be less susceptible to antibody drugs or convalescent plasma, antibody-rich blood from COVID-19 survivors — both of which help people fight off the virus.

Government scientists are "actively looking" into that possibility, Dr. Janet Woodcock of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration told reporters Thursday.

The government is encouraging development of multi-antibody treatments rather than single-antibody drugs to have more ways to target the virus in case one proves ineffective, she said.

Current vaccines induce broad enough immune responses that they should remain effective, many scientists say. Enough genetic change eventually may require tweaking the vaccine formula, but "it's probably going to be on the order of years if we use the vaccine well rather than months," Dr. Andrew Pavia of the University of Utah said Thursday on a webcast hosted by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. □

## Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

5	4						3	8
7		8				2		6
9			5	8	2			1
	2						8	
8			6		9			2
6								3
2			4	1	3			9
	9						1	
		1	7	9	5	8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

**Assistant Director**  
Xiomara Arends

**Editor in Chief**  
Linda Reijnders  
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)  
Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

**Editors**  
Richard Brooks

**Sales**  
Linda Reijnders  
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)  
Sulaika Croes

**Classifieds**  
classified@cspnv.com

**Distribution and Collection**  
accounting@bondia.com

**Social / Website**  
Juan Luis Pinto  
Pilar Flores

**Columnists**  
Anthony Croes  
Joris Zantvoort  
Thais Franken

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800  
E: news@arubatoday.com  
W: www.arubatoday.com  
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Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

**TRAVEL INFO**

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

**AID FOUNDATIONS**

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952  
Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989  
Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400  
Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888  
Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433  
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

**General Info**

Phone Directory Tel. 118



# Q&A: Kingsley Ben-Adir breaks out as Malcolm X

By **LINDSEY BAHR**  
AP Film Writer

British actor Kingsley Ben-Adir may not be a household name yet, but that's poised to change with his scene-stealing performance as Malcolm X in Regina King's "One Night in Miami...." The film, which imagines an electric meeting between the civil rights icon, Sam Cooke, Cassius Clay and Jim Brown in February 1964, is currently available on Prime Video. The 35-year-old has been a working actor for over a decade and has had more than a few heartbreaks and near-breaks along the way. In his first film, "World War Z," his speaking line with Brad Pitt was unceremoniously cut. Then there was the Ang Lee Muhammad Ali film that he spent years testing and months in active training for (he was to play Ali) that ended up losing its financing. "One Night in Miami..." was almost a missed opportunity, too. His agents first suggested him for Clay. He declined ("I felt too old") but said to call him if anything happened to the actor playing Malcolm. Ben-Adir said he was partially joking, but that call did come. He officially got the part just 12



Kingsley Ben-Adir attends the premiere of "The OA" Season 2 on March 19, 2019, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

days before he was due on set. "I thought, I don't know if I can prepare Malcolm X in 12 days," Ben-Adir said. "Then I was like, 'I have to do it.'" Ben-Adir spoke to The Associated Press — hours before he'd pick up the breakthrough actor award at the Gotham Awards — about finding the humanity in the icon and the tricky logistics of playing both Malcolm X and Barack Obama at the same time. Remarks have

been edited for clarity and brevity. **AP:** Was Malcolm X a figure in your life growing up in the U.K.? **Ben-Adir:** I grew up knowing exactly who he was. I'd read the autobiography at an earlier stage and he was someone who I was definitely aware of. I can't say the same for the education syllabus here. We weren't taught much about African American history at all and Black British history is almost non-exis-

tent in my school. **AP:** Who is Malcolm X at this moment in 1964? **Ben-Adir:** Regina and I were trying to figure out how far we could push the exploration of showing Malcolm as a father and as a husband and as a man who at this moment in time was in a very, very vulnerable situation. He was on a ban from the Nation of Islam and his relationship with Elijah Muhammad, who essentially was his father figure for 12 years, was

really crumbling. There was a sense that his life was in danger and there's a feeling that Malcolm knew that his time was maybe coming to an end. There's this wonderful opportunity with this movie to explore the humanity of this "fearless demagogue." Malcolm described to his friend Dick Gregory that he felt weak and hollow and that nobody knew the torments that he was going through at this time. Dick talks about Malcolm as a sweet and bashful man, a kind man and a good-humored man and someone who would be embarrassed if he could hear us talking about him in this way now. And I just thought that was just gorgeous. **AP:** That seems to belie the imagery that we always see of him. **Ben-Adir:** I feel like all of the all of the imagery that we're used to, the stuff on YouTube and the soundbites... it's always Malcolm responding to usually the next day — or on the same day — as the most hideous instances of racism or police brutality or political injustice. It's no wonder he's riled up and impassioned and angry in so much of that archive footage. □

## Jazmine Sullivan, Eric Church, H.E.R. to sing at Super Bowl

By **MESFIN FEKADU**  
AP Music Writer  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — R&B star Jazmine Sullivan and country singer Eric Church

will join forces to sing the national anthem at the next month's Super Bowl, where Grammy-winning singer H.E.R. will perform

"America the Beautiful." The performances will take place Feb. 7 at the Raymond James Stadium in Tampa before the big game and halftime show starring The Weeknd. It will air on CBS. Deaf rapper and recording artist Warren "WAWA" Snipe will perform "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful" in American Sign Language. Emmy-nominated musical director Adam Blackstone will arrange and produce Church and Sullivan's rendition of the national anthem. Jay-Z's Roc Nation company is executive producing the halftime show for a second year. Jesse Collins, who has produced the BET Awards and is working on

this year's Grammys and Oscars telecasts, will serve as an executive producer. Sullivan rose to the top of the R&B charts in 2008 with her debut single and album. She's earned 12 Grammy nominations and written songs for Mary J. Blige, Jennifer Hudson and Monica. Her new album, "Heaux Tales," debuted at No. 4 on this week's all-genre Billboard 200 albums chart. Church, a 10-time Grammy nominee, released his debut album in 2006 and has topped the country charts with songs like "Drink In My Hand," "Springsteen," "Talladega" and "Record Year." He's released multiple multiplatinum and platinum albums and was named entertainer of the

year at last year's Country Music Association Awards. H.E.R. won two Grammys in 2019 and has earned critical acclaim for her live performances, including her work as a guitarist. She's won honors at the MTV Video Music Awards, BET Awards and Soul Train Music Awards and launched R&B hits such as "Focus," "Best Part," "Slide," "Damage" and "B.S." with Jhené Aiko. □



This combination photo shows Eric Church performing at the 2016 Stagecoach Festival in Indio, Calif., on April 29, 2016, left, and Jazmine Sullivan performing at the Pre-Grammy Gala And Salute To Industry Icons in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Feb. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

5	4	2	1	7	6	9	3	8
7	1	8	9	3	4	2	5	6
9	3	6	5	8	2	4	7	1
1	2	9	3	4	7	6	8	5
8	7	3	6	5	9	1	4	2
6	5	4	8	2	1	7	9	3
2	8	7	4	1	3	5	6	9
4	9	5	2	6	8	3	1	7
3	6	1	7	9	5	8	2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/20

# Lower scores just an example of golf evolving

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Chris Kirk shot 65 four days in a row and it wasn't enough to win on the PGA Tour.

Joaquin Niemann can appreciate the feeling. The dynamic 22-year-old from Chile played both tournaments in Hawaii and was a combined 45-under par. He lost in a playoff at Kapalua and finished one shot behind in the Sony Open.

For those who are either put off or put to sleep by low scoring on the PGA Tour, relief is probably not on the way.

Next up is The American Express in the California desert, a tournament still known as the Bob Hope in some circles and defined by low scoring under any name. Since going to 72 holes in 2012, the highest winning score was 20-under 268 by Hudson Swafford. He won by one shot in 2017 over Adam Hadwin, a day after Hadwin shot 59.

None of this should be cause for alarm. Some of it has to do with the weather. The day after Kevin Na won the Sony Open by one shot over Kirk and Niemann, the wind blew so hard it felt as though the island of Oahu might get blown



**Chris Kirk putts on the 13th green during the third round at the Sony Open golf tournament Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021, in Honolulu.**

across the ocean. For the tournament week, there was barely enough wind to move a palm frond. A year ago, with 30 mph gusts every round until Sunday, the winning score was 10 shots higher.

There was only a tropical breeze, not the notorious trade wind, at Kapalua the previous week for the Sentry Tournament of Champions. Harris English and Niemann finished at 25-under par, and seven others finished at 20 under or better. Golf has been that way for more than a century. Instead of worrying how low the scores are getting, perhaps it's worth celebrating which records have stood the longest. All of them probably deserve an asterisk because golf courses only look the same. They have become longer by various measures. Lawn mowers are better,

too. Nothing is ever exactly how it was. The oldest 72-hole record on PGA Tour courses remains at Riviera in 1985, when Lanny Wadkins shot 20-under 264 on a soggy course in Los Angeles. Wadkins is proud of that mark, and he surely is happy Dustin Johnson wasn't aware of the record — nor did he particularly care — when Johnson reached 20 under with 12 holes remain-

ing in 2017, played it safe and shot 17-under 267 to win by five. Right behind is Bay Hill, the course where Tiger Woods has won a record eight times. He still hasn't had a week like the late Payne Stewart did in 1987 when he shot 264. No one has come within five shots of Stewart's record. Tom Lehman shot 268 at Muirfield Village to win the Memorial in 1994. Greg Norman, Woods and Patrick Cantlay all have come within a stroke of that record. And yes, Woods still has a few scoring records to claim. One of them is at East Lake, where he shot 23-under 257 in 2007. Not even Johnson with a 10-shot head start in the new FedEx Cup scoring system could top that. Those records surely will fall in time. That's how golf has evolved, much like other sports. Sprinters have better shoes. Swimmers have better suits. That doesn't even account for players who are bigger, stronger and faster, and equipped with better training, more knowledge and video, perhaps the most underrated piece of technology. □

Associated Press

# Carolina-Nashville 1st NHL postponement since season started

By **TERESA M. WALKER**

AP Sports Writer

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — The NHL has postponed its first game since the league's season began, calling off Tuesday night's game between Carolina and the Predators hours after the Hurricanes won the first of a two-game set in Nashville.

"The decision was made out of an abundance of caution to ensure the health and safety of players, coaches and game day personnel and in consultation with medical experts," the league said.

The NHL did not specify which team prompted the postponement. The NHL already postponed the start of the Dallas Stars' season after six players and two

staff members tested positive for COVID-19.

For the Hurricanes, captain Jordan Staal had been the only player on the NHL's unavailability list due to COVID-19 protocols. Staal had been on that daily list since Friday, with the Hurricanes losing at Detroit on Saturday then winning 4-2 at Nashville on Monday in that span.

Nashville had forward Mikael Granlund and defenseman Luca Sbisa on the unavailability list Jan. 13 and 14 with the Predators claiming Sbisa off waivers from Winnipeg on Jan. 12. Granlund has remained on the list. He arrived Jan. 15 from Finland and currently is in quarantine.

The NHL's unavailability list covers multiple factors

such as isolation due to a confirmed positive test or quarantines due to being "a high risk close contact."

The league did not announce a make-up date yet. The teams aren't scheduled to play again in Nashville until the end of the season with back-to-back games on May 7-8. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said last week realigning divisions was done in part in case games needed to be postponed. Dallas Stars coach Rick Bowness said he was making out his team's schedule "in pencil" in case it needed to be changed. Their first four games were postponed after 17 players tested positive.

Now the Predators, who gave players Tuesday off



**Carolina Hurricanes goaltender James Reimer (47) celebrates defeating the Nashville Predators 4-2 with defenseman Haydn Fleury (4) after an NHL hockey game in Nashville, Tenn., Monday, Jan. 18, 2021.**

Associated Press

after the postponement, are scheduled to visit Dallas on Friday night for the Stars' season opener. The Hurricanes are scheduled for

their home opener Thursday against Florida, the first of six straight home games including visits from Tampa Bay and Dallas. □

# #HenneThingsPossible as Chiefs look toward AFC title game

By **DAVE SKRETTA**

AP Sports Writer

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)** —

The 35-year-old journeyman quarterback that made the two plucky plays in the final minutes of regulation that helped get the Kansas City Chiefs into the AFC championship game was fortunate to even be on the team.

Chad Henne had spent nearly a decade with Miami and Jacksonville, where his career could best be described as the essence of mediocrity. He was 18-35 as the starter for two franchises perpetually rebuilding, and upon his release from the Jaguars in 2017, he found himself in a competition with another veteran, Matt Moore, to be Patrick Mahomes' backup. "It was almost a flip of the coin," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said this week.

Henne got the job. And three years later, he had the opportunity to reward the Chiefs for their faith in him. Mahomes left in the third quarter of their divisional-round game against the Browns because of a concussion, and Henne calmly stepped into the huddle and led them to a field goal on his first drive to push the lead to 22-10 late in the third quarter.

Those two plucky plays came in the fourth, when the Chiefs were clinging to a 22-17 lead and trying to run out the clock.



**Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Chad Henne celebrates after a run during the second half of an NFL divisional round football game against the Cleveland Browns, Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021, in Kansas City.**

Associated Press

The first came on third-and-14 deep in their own territory, when Henne got his creaky old legs going so fast that it even surprised his teammates. He was flushed from the pocket and scrambled to his left, his eyes trained downfield until he had crossed the line of scrimmage, at which point he tucked the ball and took a bit of a shot as he dived for the first down. He came up inches short, leading to the second play. Reid had gone over the scenario with Mahomes and Henne the previous

night — fourth-and-1 with a chance to win the game — and they had a call they liked, so the Super Bowl-winning coach sent his backup quarterback onto the field. Henne was so calm that it appeared he was trying to pull Cleveland offside and that Kansas City would otherwise punt, but then he called for the snap and snapped a pass to Tyreek Hill in the flat. It went for a first down. The Chiefs ran out the clock. Mahomes got the Chiefs fans everywhere tweeting "#HenneThingsPossible."

"I talk to Chad basically every morning, I think. We're usually in there pretty early," Chiefs safety Tyrann Mathieu said. "He is a true professional. If you were able to watch this guy every single day, Monday through Saturday, he has the same routine.

"Any given moment you need to be prepared to play at a high level, and it was good to see him make some plays."

So what kept Henne going all those years, when the Dolphins no longer wanted him and the Jag-

uars let him go? What gave him the humility to accept a job as the backup to a young hotshot, uncertain he would ever step on the field again?

"I think my personality," Henne said. "I'm always a competitor, throughout the years, if it went my way or didn't go my way. I just felt like I loved the game still. I loved the locker room and coming here just enlightened me. Coach Reid and his staff and the players here brought a lot out of me, and seeing Patrick and his success, he's helped me out more than I feel like I helped him out. It's just a pleasure being here. This is why I play."

Henne fractured his ankle in the preseason last year and again could have hung up his cleats, especially when Moore was signed and proved successful when Mahomes had a knee injury. But he instead went through grueling physical therapy, ultimately returning to the team for the postseason.

The Chiefs thought so highly of him that they gave him a two-year, \$3.25 million contract last March.

"You never want to see a guy like Patrick go down, one of the best players in the league," Henne said. "That's why I'm here, come in prepared. There's a lot of great players around me that make me feel confident." □

## Sarah Thomas to be 1st female to officiate at Super Bowl



**Down judge Sarah Thomas is shown before an NFL football game between the Cleveland Browns and the Washington Football Team in Cleveland, in this Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020, file photo.**

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Sarah Thomas will cap her sixth NFL season by becoming the first female to officiate the Super Bowl in NFL history.

Thomas, a down judge, is part of the officiating crew announced Tuesday by the NFL.

"Sarah Thomas has made history again as the first female Super Bowl official," said Troy Vincent, Sr., the NFL's executive vice president of football operations. "Her elite performance and commitment to excellence has earned her the right to officiate

the Super Bowl. Congratulations to Sarah on this well-deserved honor."

Referee Carl Cheffers will lead the seven-person crew of on-field game officials for the Super Bowl on Feb. 7 at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida. Cheffers has been a game official for 21 seasons in the NFL and was promoted to referee in 2008. He has worked 17 playoff games, including the Super Bowl in 2017.

The crew includes umpire Fred Bryan, line judge Rusty Baynes, field judge James Coleman, side judge Eu-

gene Hall, back judge Dino Paganelli and replay official Mike Wimmer. The crew has 88 years of NFL experience with 77 combined playoff games.

This will be the first Super Bowl for Coleman as well as Thomas and second for Cheffers, Bryan, Baynes, Hall and Paganelli.

"Their body of work over the course of a 17-game season has earned them the honor of officiating the biggest game on the world's biggest stage," Vincent said.

"They are the best of the best." □